SEDONA, ARIZONA — IT'S NOT JUST FOR LITTLE GREEN MEN
TRAVEL {page 11}

RECIPE TO RICHES
MAPLE PUDDING 'CHÔMEUR' UPS THE ANTE {page 12}

BURMY!
IS BURMISTROV THE JETS' BEST PLAYER? {page 15}

WINNIPEG metro®

Wednesday, October 19, 2011
www.metronews.ca

News worth sharing.

Coming to Polo Park

- New office complex will have an extensive retail component
- Cadillac Fairview Corp. Ltd. and Shindico are developing the project

ELISHA DACEY
@METRONEWS.CA

The old Winnipeg Arena site will soon be a weed-choked field no longer.

Western Financial Group (WFG) will open a new major regional office on the site and will be the anchor of a new two-storey complex to be built on the site.

"Because of our growth, we had run out of space in our existing buildings," said WFG president Grant Ostir. "Our new location gives us a central, modern, unified location and plenty of room to grow."

Western Financial Group will occupy the entire second floor of the complex, which will provide 100,000 square feet of space. The bottom floor will be devoted entirely to retail.

$36M
The new complex will cost $36 million to build.

JAMES TURNER/METRO

▶ Scott Tannas, Western Financial Group's president and CEO, left, and Sandy Shindleman, president and CEO of Shindico, break ground on a new office and retail complex at the site of the former Winnipeg Arena.

Criminal justice

Critics say bill is a crime

- Conservatives say their massive crime bill will enhance public safety
- At what cost, experts ask {page 4}

Photo of the day

Enter our global photo challenge {page 6}

We like 'em big & buff

So says a new study about what we want in a political leader {page 5}

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Suspects nabbed after two car chases

Police said they have two people in custody after two car chases ended in a smashed hydro pole and a bunch of damaged cars.

Police said the two suspects allegedly broke into a home on Ingersoll Street and stole the keys to the homeowners' silver Toyota Rav4 at 3:40 a.m. on Sunday.

Cops spotted the SUV near Osborne Street and Mulvey Avenue. The driver tried to evade police, and a pursuit was broken off due to safety concerns after the driver hit a vehicle and a police cruiser.

Police caught up with the stolen SUV near Westminster Avenue and Furby Street. Officers chased the vehicle, which stopped only after striking two parked cars and ramming into a hydro pole.

David George Draginda, 29, and Lisa Anne McNeilly, 25, were arrested and charged. They have also been charged in connection with a break-in on Walker Avenue on Monday afternoon. METRO

Cops bust grow-op

RCMP have busted a $50,000 grow-op in the Rural Municipality of Mountain.

Swan River RCMP said they executed a warrant at a home near Birch River on Saturday afternoon around 2 p.m. METRO

Ballet. Performance

▶ Royal Winnipeg Ballet dancers Harrison James and Sophia Lee perform yesterday as Svengali and Svengali's First in the world premiere of Svengali, now on at the Centennial Concert Hall until Oct. 23. For more about the show, including video, go to metronews.ca/winnipeg.

ELISHA DACEY/METRO

Svengali now on at Centennial Concert Hall

Preventing online teen-luring

Adolescents need to be educated on the potential consequences of revealing too much detail about their lives online, expert says

JAMES TURNER
@METRONEWS.CA

Winnipeg police and justice officials say she's a young girl who fell victim to a man's attempts to lure her for sex using Facebook.

But weeks after an arrest was announced in her case, it appears the teen's online presence remains completely open to public view, raising alarms that more education for youth about online sexual exploitation is necessary.

A 45-year-old former employee of the Winnipeg School Division was formally charged Monday with two counts of Internet luring.

He remains free on several conditions including not going online or accessing pornography.

At the time of the arrest, police said the victim's mother noticed suspicious and "inappropriate" online chats that ultimately led to his arrest.

However, the alleged victim's Facebook profile today remains largely an open book, listing all manner of detailed personal information — such as her birth date, career aspirations and even the school she attends. This leaves her vulnerable, child-protection advocates warn.

That information could assist a predator by becoming a "communications starter" for them with youths, possibly leading to exploitation and dangerous situations, said Noni Classen, director of education at the Canadian Centre for Child Protection.

Adolescents need to be educated on the potential consequences of revealing too much detail about themselves online, Classen said.

"You can so easily lose control of what happened to it."

Ultimately, curbing online exploitation means fostering "rich discussion" with kids about what healthy relationships are and "control techniques" used by online predators, Classen said.

1 news

An experimental malaria vaccine has an encouraging showing in clinical research. Scan code for story.

To scan 2D barcodes in Metro, download the free ScanLife app at 2dscan.com.

On the web at metronews.ca

Rugby star Adam Kleeberger's famous beard is sent to a better place for a good cause. Video at metronews.ca

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Crime bill sparks war of words

Conservatives say their bill is effective and affordable, at a cost of $78.5M over five years

One expert after another is warning the federal government that its massive crime bill will do more harm than good, costing taxpayers dearly for a punitive system that will only serve to make the streets more dangerous.

But Conservative MPs are questioning the credibility of those experts, suggesting they are advocating for criminals.

"We believe the substance of this legislation both to be self-defeating and counterproductive, if the goal is to enhance public safety," Eric Gottardi, vice-chair of the Canadian Bar Association's national criminal justice section, said yesterday. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Massive package

- The omnibus bill merges nine previous pieces of legislation, and adds new elements, tying them into a massive package that critics say is an "incoherent" attempt to crack down on dangerous criminals.
- The measures aim to toughen penalties for drug traffickers, child-sex crimes and violent young offenders. The bill would also make pardons more difficult to obtain. And it would give victims of crime more rights to have their voices heard in the parole system.

Prisoners. Freed

▶ Palestinian youth celebrate the release of prisoners at the Rafah border crossing in southern Gaza Strip yesterday. More than 1,000 Palestinian prisoners were released in exchange for captive Israeli soldier Gilad Shalit, seen after his release in inset.

EYAD BABA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ISRAELI DEFENCE FORCE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Israeli, Palestinians return home

Israeli officials said Gilad Shalit showed signs of malnutrition as he emerged from more than five years of captivity, and his father said he needed time to recover from psychological and physical wounds. Palestinians celebrated the release of their prisoners in the West Bank and Gaza, where massive rallies festooned with green Hamas flags were held.

Hard times for young families

A Canadian research institute says baby boomers are retiring as the wealthiest generation in history while couples with young children are stuck in an economic squeeze.

The Human Early Learning Partnership at the University of British Columbia released a report calling on federal and provincial governments to spend $22 billion on social programs to fix a declining standard of living for young families.

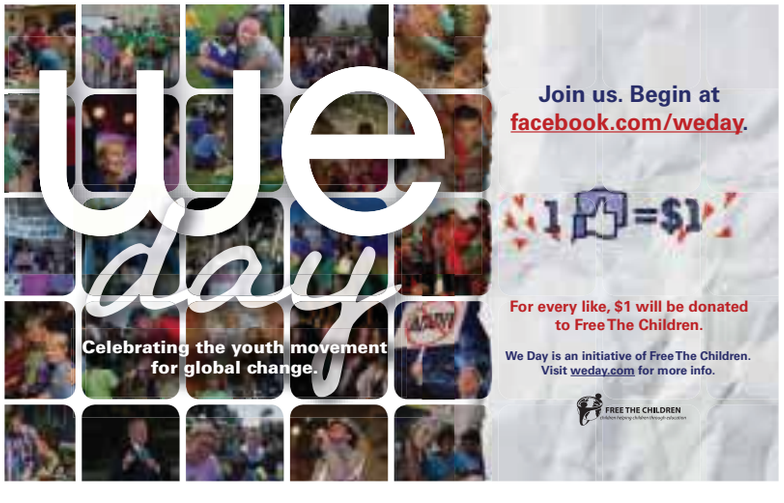
Public policy professor Paul Kershaw, a self-professed crusader for families, released the findings in Saskatoon with colleagues from the University of Saskatchewan. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

30 Accounting for inflation, young couples are bringing in nearly the same household income as those before them did 30 years ago, even though there are more women in the workforce, said public policy professor Paul Kershaw.

76 Kershaw's report blames skyrocketing housing prices and expensive daycare. It said the average housing price in Canada has jumped 76 per cent since 1976.

18 Kershaw said parental leave should be increased to 18 months from 12, especially to give dads more time at home with their children.

80 The report recommends insuring 80 per cent of parental income — up to $60,000 a year — double the existing benefit.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Tracking apps: Are you ever alone?

Story of man catching cheating wife raises privacy concerns

LILLO MONTALTO MONELLA
LONDON@METRONEWS.CA
METRO WORLD NEWS

BEBETO MATTHEWS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ People turning to their mobile phones to tell others where they are has been a boon for burglars, because if you're somewhere, that also means you're not at home.

Next time you download a mobile app, be warned: it could wreck your marriage, as one episode in New York City suggests.

A man claims he discovered his wife was two-timing him after turning on his new iPhone 4S and his Find My Friends app pinpointed her exact location.

Whether this "spying via app" story is a hoax or not, it raises the question of what the possibilities are in "smartphone espionage."

"The story raises big privacy issues: people either forget their apps are turned on, or they are just careless about using them. You might have just broken up and it'll be easy for your ex to start stalking you," Graham Cluley, senior technology consultant at the London-based security company Sophos, told Metro.

So, next time you find yourself about to install a mobile app that tracks your movements while you mosey through town, well, think about it twice. It may be used against you.

60 seconds

MODERN SPYING

Leon Hart, private detective

Do you actually use social media or apps to find unfaithful bedmates?
We do use LinkedIn, Facebook or Google Latitude to track down people. Those are the places that we normally search.

Any other special trick from your bag?
We rely on our apps we developed along with other detective agencies. When we install them, they are practically invisible to the phone owner.

You can't hide

These apps find you and tell the world.

- **Foursquare**
  Lets you virtually "check in" to different locations, find out where your friends are and receive ads about what may interest you nearby.
- **Find My Friends**
  Free gizmo tracks down where people are at a given time through reading out a text location, and by plotting buddies on a map.
- **Facebook Places**
  It allows to let your friends know where you are simply by tapping the Places button on your Facebook mobile app.
- **Gowalla**
  It's not only another location-based service: it works also as a social guide to the most loved places and cities.

We like our politicians tall and buff, experts claim

KARIN WASTESON
METRO WORLD NEWS

We want our big politicians, who have to make big decisions, to be the 'big men', literally speaking.

Politicians blessed with height and physical prowess have a greater chance of having a successful career in power than their diminutive rivals, new research claims.

In a U.S.-based study published yesterday, psychologists suggest this "caveman" political leaning may stem from an evolutionary desire since ancient times for physically dominating leaders who could triumph over their adversaries.

"Some traits and instincts that may have been acquired through evolution continue to manifest themselves in modern life," Professor Gregg Murray from Texas Tech University, lead author of the report, said.

Murray's team asked U.S. college students to draw an ideal leader and ordinary citizen — 64 per cent drew a national leader who was taller than average.

58% The taller candidate has won 58 per cent in U.S. elections between 1789 and 2008, a pattern named the "presidential height index."

DOES IT SEEM LIKE
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If you're having trouble getting a car loan, you're not alone. Some sources say at least 77% of the Canadian population will experience a credit-based loan denial in their lifetime.

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TO INFINITY AND BEYOND

JUST SAYIN' ...

PAUL SULLIVAN
METRO

Space really is the final frontier — for tourists at least.

If you're forced to stifle yawns at the prospect of yet another visit to the all-inclusive Budget Paradise Cancun, wake up! In the next five years, according to delegates to this week's National Symposium for Personal and Commercial Spaceflight, outfits such as Sir Richard Branson's Virgin Galactic, Blue Origin, and XCOR Aerospace will routinely offer space flights of fancy.

While early space tourism is not exactly going where no one has gone before — it will feature the kind of sub-space trips flown by the Mercury pioneer astronauts in the '60s — it's still a far cry from Sandals. The view is to die for, and you get to experience weightlessness for five whole minutes. Bite me, gravity.

This is not science fiction: It's going to happen. Virgin Galactic has already glide-tested the VSS Enterprise, and the six-passenger ship will undergo rocket-powered tests next year. Meanwhile, 450 people have put down $20,000 deposits on the $200,000 fare Virgin Galactic will charge when it finally gets off the ground. AXCOR's two-seater Lynx will be a little cheaper: $95,000 for a round trip.

"There's no word how many frequent flyer points will be required, but rumour has it they'll start with a zillion and work up from there. Blackouts will be routine — and that's once you're on the flight."

There's no word how many frequent-flyer points will be required, but rumour has it they'll start with a zillion and work up from there. Blackouts will be routine — and that's once you're on the flight. The entire experience will take only two and a half hours, but for space geeks the memories will last a lifetime … if they survive re-entry.

Virgin is even building a spaceport in the New Mexico desert, which is appropriate, considering that nearby Roswell is the world HQ for alien encounters.

The $209-million Spaceport America was christened a couple of days ago by Branson himself, who climbed down the side, quaffing champagne. Let's get this party started.

For those of you who think it's a waste of money and carbon and would rather go to Tuscany, I understand.

For $200K, you could spend the entire growing season in a luxury Tuscan villa, where it's warmer and sunnier than space, where the average temperature is three degrees above absolute zero. Well, at least it's not absolute zero.

The view in Tuscany is also pretty good, but on a clear day in space, you can see everywhere.

So far, I haven't been able to convince my wife to deposit 20 grand on the VSS Enterprise. She's up for a cruise but was thinking Alaska or the Caribbean.

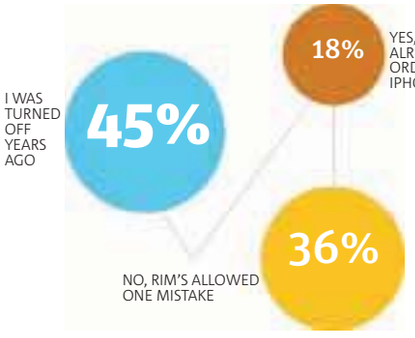
I guess some people do not want to boldly go where no one has gone before, unless it has room service.

Read more of Paul Sullivan's columns at metronews.ca/justsaying

Panel

Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

Did the outage turn you off of BlackBerry smartphones?



Local tweets

▶**@JG Bourgeois:** By dismantling the Wheat Board @PMHarper manages to flip the bird to farmers, Churchill, Winnipeg & reason, all at once #efficient #cdnpoli

▶**@hrae7:** After an amazing weekend in Winnipeg, I have to head back to work. Although I am feeling inspired!

▶**@Jeff10k:** Not sure if its the liberal use of stucco, or the oddly narrow lots, but I can always tell I'm in Winnipeg just by looking at the houses.

▶**@lisa617:** @gregdunaway Winnipeg fans haven't been polite about ATL losing a team. Disappointing. They should remember how it felt to lose a team.

▶**@JordSank:** why does twitter say winnipeg, jets, and fleury are trending in pittsburgh? i refuse to even think that game happened. #ilovethepensstill

▶**@Sonicorp:** I wish that Apple would let customers join in the one hour remembrance of Steve Jobs at their retail stores tomorrow.

Letters

There is a federal review of all spending by all government departments underway. All departments have been told to look at their budgets with a view to cutting five per cent or 10 per cent (both are an option) from their operations and programming budgets. This type of review is needed in these tumultuous financial times, but unfortunately it also includes Veterans Affairs Canada.

We will battle with all we have to prevent any programs or operations that will have the direct effect of our veterans' benefits being cut. Veterans — serving or retired; regular, reserve or RCMP — should always be given the thanks of the country that put them in harm's way. There is a way to show that thanks — and that is by not cutting any benefits that have accrued to them in the past because of this review.

President Barack Obama has stated that American veterans' programs would be exempt from the U.S. program review and that the U.S. would not live off the backs of the American veteran.

PATRICIA VARGA
ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION

photo of the day

▶ This photo titled FUN At The Park! was submitted to the Photo of the Day category by stevetroletti.com from Montreal.

Metro invites its readers to join the Metro Global Photo Challenge — running in 100 cities on four continents — to win fantastic prizes and worldwide recognition. Enter your digital photos at metrophotochallenge.com. The contest runs until Nov. 22. As well as a chance to win a trip to any city Metro publishes, one submission will also be featured here daily.

WEIRD NEWS

PhDs can only be explained by interpretive dance

So you think you can dance, Einstein?

Two Canadian scientists are among 16 finalists in this year's edition of a growing international competition that uses PhD theses as inspiration for dance videos.

"The goal of the contest is to be able to portray your research in a way that's fun to watch and that's easy to understand," said Erin McConnell, a Carleton University biochemist. Her thesis DNA Aptamers as a Tool for Studying Mental Health Disease is surprisingly well-expressed using of hip-hop, ballet and Highland fling.

The annual Dance Your Thesis contest attempts to use dance to bridge the gap between science and the public — and lets scientists blow off a little steam after too many hours in the lab.

Creator John Bohanon said it all began as a way to liven up a New Year's Eve party. "I wanted it to be a dance party, but scientists are like everyone — you either need a lot of alcohol or a bizarre party theme to lighten the mood," he said. "I figured it would be really fun to have everyone compete by explaining their PhD research in dance form." **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

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BBX is wave of future: RIM

New operating system will help company take on Apple, co-CEO says

Research In Motion's new mobile operating system will power its next-generation BlackBerry smartphones and PlayBook tablets to better compete with Internet-friendly Apple and Android devices.

Yesterday's announcement by co-CEO Mike Lazaridis comes just days after RIM had the worst service outage in its history. The company is trying to reposition its wireless devices as market leaders.

"Today, I'm pleased to announce our next-generation platform, BBX," Lazaridis said at RIM's software developer conference in San Francisco.

The BBX platform is based on the system that is already in the PlayBook tablet but has been expanded, Lazaridis said.

RIM is expected to launch new BlackBerrys with the more powerful BBX system early next year. They are expected to be even more like mobile computers.

Lazaridis said RIM won't ditch its PlayBook, which has been languishing on store shelves and sold fewer than one million units since its debut in April.

"We're absolutely committed to the BlackBerry PlayBook," he said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Market moment

PRICES AS OF 5 P.M. YESTERDAY

TSX	Dollar
+ 130.07 (12,053.11)	+ 0.74¢ (98.58¢ US)

Oil	Natural gas	Gold
+ $1.96 US ($88.34 US)	$3.553 US (- 13.5¢)	$1,652.80 US (- $23.80)

ERIC RISBERG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Mike Lazaridis, co-CEO of Research in Motion, speaks at the BlackBerry DevCon Americas conference yesterday in San Francisco.

Wheat board mulls action against Ottawa

The federal government could face a challenge to its plan to strip the Canadian Wheat Board of its monopoly on western wheat and barley sales in time for the next crop year.

Board chairman Allan Oberg says he is meeting agency directors next week to look at legal options. He says Ottawa has violated the spirit, if not the letter, of the Canadian Wheat Board Act by not holding a plebiscite on the changes.

Farmers are split on the issue, with many saying an open market could drive down prices.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

U.S. builders adjust outlook

American homebuilders are less pessimistic about the housing market, but not enough to signal a recovery. The National Association of Home Builders said yesterday that its index of builder sentiment this month rose to 18 from 14. Any reading below 50 shows negative sentiment about the market.

Last year, the number of Americans buying new homes fell to its lowest level in nearly 50 years. Sales this year have not fared much better, as builders struggle to compete with foreclosures, which have lowered the price of resale homes. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Nova Scotia Nominee Program, Economic Stream Refund

If you paid fees to the Economic Stream of the Nova Scotia Nominee Program, **you might be able to get some money back from the Province of Nova Scotia**. Read this to find out more.

What is this about?

A lawsuit was started against the Province of Nova Scotia in 2009. The goal was to get a refund for people who applied for and paid fees into the former Economic Stream of the Nova Scotia Nominee Program. The Supreme Court of Nova Scotia has now certified that lawsuit as a class action. Your legal rights may be affected. The lawyers for both sides have made a deal that would give a refund to eligible people. The Supreme Court of Nova Scotia approved the settlement as fair and reasonable.

Am I included?

You are if you (1) paid money to Nova Scotia under the Economic Stream of the Nova Scotia Nominee Program, (2) landed and obtained permanent resident status in Canada, and (3) did not already get a refund. As long as you told the truth in your application and immigration filings, you should be eligible for a refund.

What does this mean for me?

If you are a Class Member, your legal rights are affected. You will benefit from any settlement, but you must give up your right to sue the Government of Nova Scotia on your own.

How much will I get?

If you were not paid anything under a business mentorship, you will get $63,750 back if your claim is approved ($75,000 less an approved 15% fee of $11,250). If you were paid under a business mentorship, the amount you were paid will be deducted from $75,000. The 15% fee will be taken from the net amount.

Do I have to pay anything out of my own pocket?

No. The lawyers' fees have already been accounted for in the amount set out above. You will not be billed. The Supreme Court approved the lawyers' fee as fair and reasonable

How do I get my money?

You have to fill in a Claim Form. A copy of the Claim Form can be found at *http://www.branchmacmaster.com/nova-scotia-immigration/*. You must mail, fax, or email in the form by **May 4, 2012.**

What if I do not want to take part?

If you do not want to take part, you have to opt out. If you opt out, you will not get any benefit from the settlement. You will have to sue the Government of Nova Scotia on your own if you wish to recover anything. To opt out, go to *http://www.branchmacmaster.com/nova-scotia-immigration/*, download the opt out form, and submit it to the address listed. If you want to opt out, you must do so before **Jan. 5 2012.**

What if too many people opt out?

If more than 50 people opt out, the Province has the right to cancel the settlement. Neither the Province nor the lawyer for the class expect this to occur however.

I have other questions.

For more information, visit *http://www.branchmacmaster.com/nova-scotia-immigration/*. If you still have questions, just contact the lawyer appointed by the court to act for the class, Greg McMullen at Branch MacMaster LLP, at *gmcmullen@branmac.com* or *604-631-2560*.

NOVA SCOTIA

2 scene

Another makeover for the Musketeers

A hilarious look at the reincarnations of our three favourite swashbucklers through the years

IN FOCUS

RICHARD CROUSE
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

What do beloved hoofer Gene Kelly and post-millennial wild man Charlie Sheen have in common? The Hollywood stars both were "all for one, one for all" in a Three Musketeers movie.

Kelly was the heroic D'Artagnan in the 1948 version of the Alexandre Dumas story, while Sheen was — unsurprisingly — the arrogant womanizer Aramis in 1993.

The swashbuckling exploits of D'Artagnan and his three friends first appeared in print in 1844. Sixty years later a French film detailed their exploits for the first time.

Since then they have swashbuckled though an all-girl version called Barbie and the Three Musketeers, an old west adaptation starring John Wayne and bow wowed in an all canine edition called Dogtanian and the Three Muskethounds.

This weekend the all-new Three Musketeers brings their swashbuckling style to the big screen for the 30th time in the last century.

CONTRIBUTED

▶ Logan Lerman, left, Luke Evans, Ray Stevenson and Matthew Macfadyen star in The Three Musketeers 3D.

The Gene Kelly Three Musketeers is probably the most accurate adaptation from page to stage, but the most entertaining — and star studded — has to be The Three Musketeers: The Queen's Diamonds.

The 1973-era movie is bawdy, outrageous and action packed, with lavish set design and an even more lavish cast, including Michael York, Oliver Reed, Charlton Heston, Christopher Lee, Raquel Welch and Faye Dunaway.

Highlights include a chess game played with trained dogs and monkeys and some of the best sword fighting this side of an Errol Flynn movie.

The Musketeer (2001) features plenty of swordplay, but amps up the action with crouching tiger choreography by martial arts master Xin Xin Xiong.

Starring Justin Chambers as D'Artagnan, the story will ruffle the giant feather plumes worn by Dumas purists but as an action movie — Roger Ebert wrote, "Occasionally the action is interrupted by dialogue scenes" — it is the most exciting of the recent Musketeers movies.

Occasionally the Musketeers have appeared as supporting characters.

In 1998's The Man in the Iron Mask, the aging D'Artagnan and his posse — played by Gabriel Byrne, Jeremy Irons, John Malkovich and Gérard Depardieu — come out of retirement to rid France of an evil king, Louis XIV and replace him with his twin brother, both played by Leonardo Di Caprio.

Based on Dumas's novel Count of Bragelonne the story was also the basis for The Fifth Musketeer, a 1979 movie with the unlikely cast of Beau Bridges as Louis XIV and Alan Hale Jr. (best known as The Skipper from Gilligan's Island) as Musketeer Porthos.

Scene in brief

Glee star Cory Monteith has been named grand marshal of the Grey Cup festival parade. Monteith grew up in Victoria and moved to Vancouver as a teen to try his hand at acting. Monteith has also made the leap to the big screen, starring in Monte Carlo alongside Selena Gomez. He also appeared at last month's Toronto International Film Festival to promote the Canadian indie effort Sisters and Brothers. In a statement, Monteith said he is honoured to serve as grand marshal of the parade, adding that it's a thrilling excuse to come home. The 2011 Grey Cup Festival will be hosted by the B.C. Lions and will take place Nov. 24-27. The parade is set for Nov. 26, the day before the CFL championship game.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

New Jersey's Monmouth University to be new home for Bruce Springsteen collection

On the road

CHRIS ALEXANDER
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

It's been 41 years since filmmaker Donald Shebib put Canada on the cinematic map with his kinetic, heartfelt nouvelle vague drama Goin' Down the Road, the tender tale of two destitute East coasters (Doug McGrath and the late Paul Bradley) who jump in their car and split for the promised land of post-'60s Toronto.

What they find is more hardship, trapped in a chilly city that cares not for their plight. But the world certainly cared for Shebib's cheap and charming film, with heavy hitting critics like Pauline Kael and Roger Ebert giving it the solid thumbs up.

"We shot that film all hand held and rough because he didn't have the money," says Shebib.

CONTRIBUTED

▶ Doug McGrath stars in Down the Road Again.

"We made it on the fly with what we could get, but we had the luxury of time, shooting for eight weeks and completely non union."

The surprise success of the scrappy little film was a double edged sword for Shebib, making his career while also chaining him to the verite expectations he had no intention of fulfilling. After making a respectable living in features and TV, Shebib recently rounded up the surviving gang including McGrath, beloved actress Jayne Eastwood and Cayle Chernin (who sadly died of cancer earlier this year) to revisit the characters in the twilight of their lives in his latest, Down the Road Again, a sequel that sees McGrath's Pete hitting the trails with the remains of his deceased pal and making for his east coast home to scatter his ashes. What he finds is a family he never knew he had.

'When Don sent me this script, I couldn't be objective about it," McGrath told Metro, "because it was like reading my own history and it was like the life for this character was suddenly continuing. It was very emotional and I needed time to absorb it."

Lining up under Biebs' Mistletoe

Justin Bieber is first artist on Universal Music to be allowed to have some of album sales benefit a charity

Justin Bieber is in the holiday spirit: The singer is the first artist on the Universal Music roster to have part of his album sales benefit charity.

Partial sales from Under the Mistletoe, his Christmas album that is out Nov. 1, will go to various charities, including Pencils of Promise and the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

"Universal never actually allowed money from the album to go to charity, so it's kind of a unique thing and I'm very happy and proud of what we've done," the 17-year-old said in an interview from Lima, Peru, on Monday.

Bieber said he isn't sure how much of the sales will go to charity, but thanks his team for helping him achieve his goal of wanting to help others during the holiday season.

ENRIQUE CASTRO MENDIVIL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Justin Bieber

"I tell them basically what I want and they kind of go and help me get it done," said Bieber, who will also donate money to various food banks.

Under the Mistletoe features collaborations with Mariah Carey and Boyz II Men, among others. He said he wanted to "work with people who had great experiences with Christmas albums."

"They were all great people and fun to be around," said the Canadian-born entertainer, who appears on a "super festive" version of Carey's classic song All I Want for Christmas.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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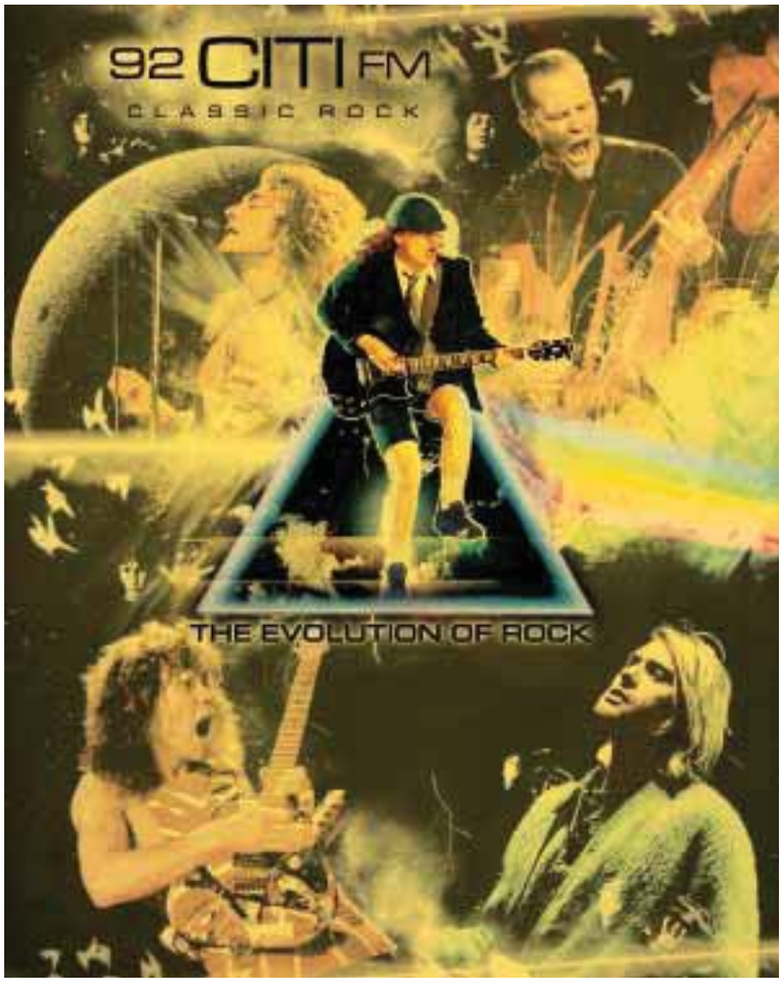

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Demi Moore puts on brave face for rumours

Wears wedding ring in her first public appearance since infidelity news

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Demi Moore

Making her first appearance since reports of Ashton Kutcher's infidelity went public, Demi Moore walked the red carpet at the New York premiere of her new film, Margin Call, this week, according to Us Weekly.

The actress, who showed up solo but wore her wedding ring, put on a "stoic smile," according to onlookers.

"Everyone was remarking how thin Demi was, more so than usual," a source says. "She seemed in a decent mood though, even a little happy to be there."

Infidelity rumours have plagued the couple for months with much of the blame landing at the feet of Kutcher. METRO

"Everyone was remarking how thin Demi was...She seemed in a decent mood though, even a little happy to be there." SOURCE

Yoooouuu ... got arrested

Rapper Soulja Boy — whose real name is DeAndre Cortez — was arrested for marijuana possession yesterday in Temple, Ga., according to TMZ.

The 21-year-old's car was pulled over for a traffic violation, but police then found "a substantial amount" of marijuana in the car, as well a selection of guns and close to $70,000 in cash.

The four other passengers in the car were arrested as well.

Soulja Boy shot to fame following his smash Internet hit Crank That (Soulja Boy). METRO

Soulja Boy

LaBeouf gets knocked out

It was another wild night out recently for Shia LaBeouf, who got into a bar brawl at Cinema Public House in Vancouver, according to Radar Online.

"He got into a confrontation with a couple of people. He took a few punches to the face. He was obviously pretty intoxicated," a source says.

The actor and another patron were reportedly bounced from the establishment, but their altercation continued on the street until both could be restrained.

A video emerged Thursday showing the actor getting repeatedly punched before staggering to his feet. METRO

Shia LeBeouf

Out of this world

Sedona, Ariz., has long been associated with spiritual and paranormal activity
But this quirky locale offers visitors plenty to do — just watch out for little green men

THE TRAVELLIN' CANADIAN

DARREN PARKMAN
TRAVEL@METRONEWS.CA

They say there's some magic in those beautiful red rock formations in mystic Sedona, Ariz., and who am I to argue?

Truth is, it's pretty hard to find any place on earth more beautiful than this strange oasis tucked in the middle of the desert. I had heard stories of this spiritual mecca being a sacred place for aboriginals for thousands of years, and soon after arriving I could see why.

Sedona is just somehow different, and almost surreal compared to the endless flat desert surrounding it. Many visitors have reported countless spiritual and paranormal experiences, and the UFO sightings continue to pour in every year.

In fact, Sedona is considered a major power centre, right up there with Stone Henge and the Pyramids, and I have to admit, I felt a certain surge in my aura while strolling among those amazing rocks.

It may have been the wine and burritos from the night before, but I swear many of Sedona's massive rock formations looked almost intricately carved by someone or something.

Maybe it was the aliens.

Cathedral Rock and Bell Rock are two of the most popular attractions in the area. Bell Rock is considered by some to be a portal to other dimensions.

I could almost envision the mother ship waiting for me ... or not. Whether you happen to believe in the supernatural or find it all hogwash, Sedona is well worth the pilgrimage. I found myself a tad awestruck at the unique beauty all around.

PHOTOS: DARREN PARKMAN/METRO NEWS

▶ There's something about the red rock formations in Sedona, Ariz., that captivate visitors.

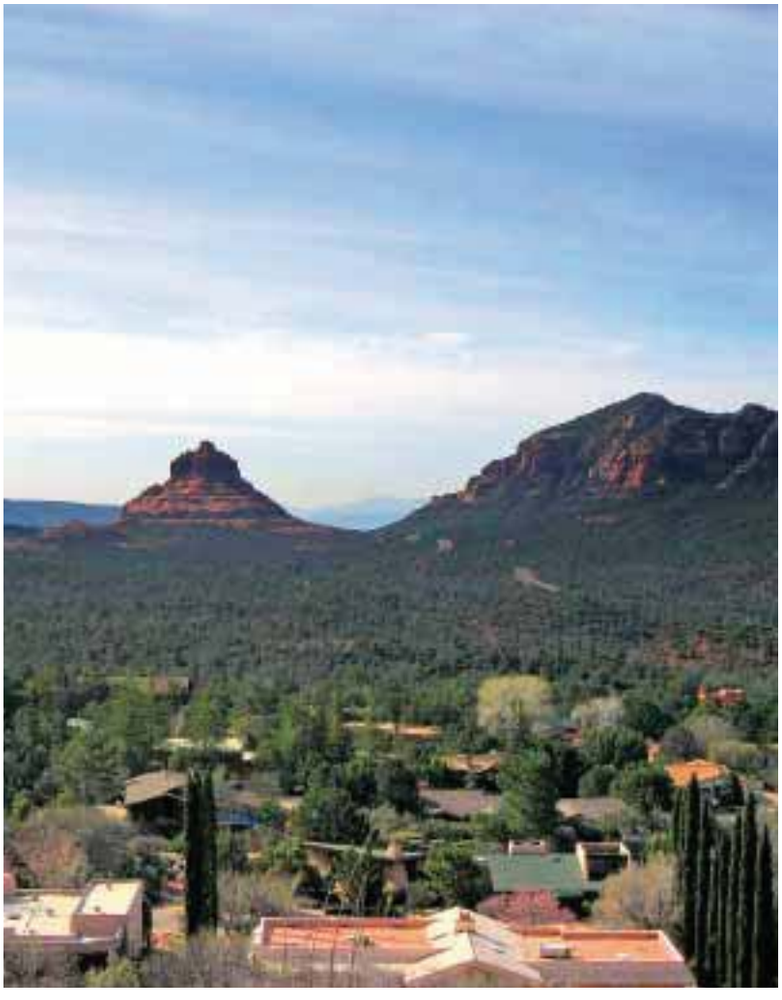
The surrounding community has a very laid back, almost spaced out (pardon the pun) feel to it.

There's plenty of hidden canyons and trails for hiking and mountain biking, and many show up to enjoy a day of "birding," apparently the cool Sedona way of bird watching. Because its elevation is more than 1,300 metres, there are a unique variety of feathered friends to watch year round.

Although they have little in common, Sedona does share one feature with its polar opposite, Las Vegas.

In recent years, many couples flocking to the magic rocks for quickie, but spiritual weddings.

There is a lot to love in this magical little oasis ... just watch out for little green men!



Other cool things to do

- **Star Gazing:** Evening Star tours offer a personalized guided tour of the heavens. The area is so dark, you'll be treated to a heavenly light show.
- **Golf and Tennis:** The area features several championship courses and local resorts feature year-round tennis in the desert.

3 life

Travel in brief

British billionaire Richard Branson was in Sierra County in southern New Mexico on Monday to get the keys to Spaceport America, the newly completed terminal and hangar facility where his Virgin Galactic will begin its commercial space tourism venture from this remote patch of desert. The building will house Virgin Galactic's spacecraft, mission control and a preparation area for space tourists.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NYC skyline park inspires ideas for new life for old viaduct blighting Philly's 'eraserhood'

Let the foodie battle begin

Recipe to Riches sees 21 home cooks go toe-to-toe Try a dish from one of the competitors

COURTESY OF FOOD NETWORK

▶ This recipe makes 12 servings.

Brad Gash from Gatineau, Que., isn't the typical food competition contender.

However, the avid outdoorsmans and civil servant is getting a chance to possibly see his signature dish in stores across Canada, thanks to the Food Network's Recipe to Riches.

The show sees 21 finalists compete in seven categories, ranging from appetizers to entrées and desserts. The winners of each category stand to receive a $25,000 cash prize and see their recipe developed into a President's Choice product.

The best part? Each week, Canadians have the chance to sample category winners' products in-store. Once category winners are determined, a $250,000 prize is up for grabs.

Ingredients:

- 2 cups (500 mL) 35% whipping cream
- 2 cups (500 mL) maple syrup
- 3-1/3 cups (825 mL) all-purpose flour
- 4 tsp (20 mL) baking powder
- 1-1/2 tsp (7 mL) salt
- 1 cup (250 mL) unsalted butter, at room temperature
- 2/3 cup (150 mL) packed brown sugar
- 4 eggs
- 1-1/2 cups (375 mL) milk
- 2 tsp (10 mL) vanilla

Preparation:

1. Heat oven to 400°F (200°C). In saucepan, bring cream and maple syrup to boil over medium heat. Pour into 13 x 9 inch (3 L) glass baking dish.
2. In bowl, whisk together flour, baking powder and salt; set aside.
3. In stand mixer fitted with paddle attachment, beat butter with sugar until light. Beat in eggs one at a time. Beat in milk and vanilla. Beat in flour mixture just until combined. Using ice cream scoop or two large spoons, scoop 12 mounds of batter into hot syrup in baking dish.
4. Bake in centre of oven for 40 mins. or until golden brown and firm to touch. **RECIPE COURTESY OF FOOD NETWORK. RECIPE TO RICHES PREMIERES TONIGHT AT 9 PM ET/PT ON FOOD NETWORK CANADA**

Drink of the week

Corpse Reviver

With Halloween less than two weeks away, it's time to start preparing for those scary parties. This drink for the big kids will get anyone in the mood.

- 30 ml (1 oz) gin
- 30 ml (1 oz) Lillet (blanc)
- 30 ml (1 oz) triple sec
- Juice of half a lemon
- 5 drops of absinthe
- 1 thin slice orange

In a cocktail shaker filled with ice, combine gin, Lillet, triple sec, lemon juice and absinthe. Strain into a martini glass, then garnish with orange slice.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/ EPIC ROASTHOUSE IN SAN FRANCISCO

Impress with Polpette di Fungi

These "egg balls" are a great appetizer for dinner parties Mushrooms take this to the next level

NEWS CANADA

▶ This recipe makes 10 servings.

Preparation:

1. Beat eggs and baking soda with a whisk. Slowly add cheese, breadcrumbs, parsley and mushrooms to egg mix. Season with sea salt and pepper and fold gently until all ingredients combined.
2. Using teaspoon, form small balls of the mix, then roll in extra Panko crumbs.
3. Heat oil in frying pan, add egg balls 3 at a time and fry over medium heat until golden brown all round. Turn to make sure they brown evenly. Drain on a paper towel and continue until all balls are fried up.
4. Heat pasta sauce over medium heat and add balls when sauce is bubbling. Turn heat down to low and partially cover saucepan. Continue to heat for 7 minutes — balls will be warm through and will have absorbed some of the sauce. Serve topped with fresh basil. **NEWS CANADA/ MARDI MICHELS OF EATLIVETRAVELWRITE.COM**

Ingredients:

- 2 eggs
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 50g freshly grated Parmesan
- 50g Panko breadcrumbs, plus extra for rolling
- 1/4 cup chopped plain parsley
- 1/2 cup finely diced fresh mushrooms (crimini, button, whatever you like)
- Pinch sea salt
- Freshly ground black pepper
- Olive oil for frying
- One jar (about 700mls) of your favourite pasta sauce

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WORKPLACE LAW

DANIEL LUBLIN
DAN@CANADAEMPLOYMENTLAWYER.COM
TWITTER: @DANLUBLIN

Are you dreaming of becoming the next senior executive of your company? Are those dreams based on assurances of more money, seniority and status? If so then read on as this is the story of one employee who recently learned that employment promises must clearly be put into writing, otherwise it is as if they were never made at all.

Thomas McNeely was a "big deal" employee working as a senior executive for a weight loss company, Herbal Magic, when a group of investors came together in a bid to purchase the company. McNeely, a sophisticated business person, was actively involved in the negotiations leading to the acquisition of the company and maintained his interest in becoming its next president and CEO. However, he was reluctant to invest his own money in the deal.

To persuade him to put up his own capital, McNeely was assured by the other investors that he would be a long-term senior employee of the new company and a member of its board of directors. However, this was not put into writing. Instead, McNeely negotiated an employment contract containing an "entire agreement" clause, which is a contractual term prohibiting parties to the contract from relying on any oral promises not written into the contract itself.

After the acquisition, McNeely was named president and CEO, but only for seven months, until he was fired and removed from the board of directors. Since McNeely was unable to withdraw his financial investment in the company, he sued, claiming that the promises made to him constituted an agreement apart from the contract he signed.

At a recent court hearing, the judge concluded that the clause in McNeely's contract prevented him from relying on any promises or agreements not contained within the contract, despite the fact that the defendant did not deny making those statements. Accordingly, McNeely was out of luck.

This decision highlights a critical mistake that too many employees continue to make. They form decisions based on promises that are not reflected in the documents they are later asked to sign. To avoid this scenario, do not blindly sign employment contracts without first having them reviewed and never be reluctant to renegotiate terms.

DANIEL LUBLIN IS AN EMPLOYMENT LAWYER WITH WHITTEN & LUBLIN LLP.

Silence not golden for us job-seekers

STUDENT VOICE

Nicole Abi-Najem

I graduated with a degree in Radio and Television Arts at Ryerson University in the spring of this past year. In my final semester, I landed a coveted internship at the Late Show with David Letterman in New York City. I returned to Toronto starry-eyed and sure that my resumé would magnetize employers. Months of unemployment later, I'm frustrated and left wondering what went wrong.

My job search began mid-way through my internship at the Late Show, creating a cushion of time to face rejection and find opportunity. I sent out my resumé and cover letter to countless companies across Toronto. I made phone calls and waited.

My efforts and strategies varied, but the response remained the same: silence. The lack of response was something I attributed to geographical distance. Upon arriving to Toronto, I intensified my search with a broadening focus on creating an online and personal presence. I made daily phone calls with detailed messages, sent hard copies of my resumé, provided links to my projects and networked.

The most irritating aspect of the career search is not rejection, but a sheer lack of response. A silent frustration settles, because my efforts have not met with the validation of a yes or no. My exasperation over simply hearing back overshadows the job hunt.

Record high unemployment for recent graduates has created desperation and a scramble for the few entry-level offerings available. Employers are inundated with hundreds of resumés that leave them incapable of giving each applicant adequate attention.

Employers should reward our efforts with their time. There is an understandable gap in the ratio of applications and responses. It's easy to screen resumés for key words and to rely on technology to select appropriate applicants and, especially in entry-level positions, far too convenient to select those who simply know the right people. If you notice someone making the effort to contact you personally, consider their enthusiasm and dedication as a skill that will translate well in your company and an effort that should at least merit a conversation. Give them advice and take the time to listen.

TALENTEGG.CA, CANADA'S ONLINE CAREER RESOURCE FOR STUDENTS AND RECENT GRADS, WANTS TO HEAR YOUR STUDENT VOICE. SHARE IT AT TALENTEGG.CA.

Where Nicole is now

I am currently working at Indigo as a Customer Experience Representative. I am also applying to graduate schools to help me find a specific focus in which to concentrate my skills and passion. I have decided to apply for either a master's of journalism or to teacher's college.

The business of rock

BRUCE WALSH
LIFE@METRONEWS.CA

In 1972, Barry Barnes heard the Grateful Dead for the first time. "Was it a shift in consciousness? Yeah," he explains.

He spent the next 17 years pursuing an MBA and later worked as an executive at John Deere — until 1989, when inspiration struck: What could the Grateful Dead teach the business world?

He promptly quit his job and began a doctoral program at the University of Kansas, where he hoped to study the "organizational principles of the Grateful Dead."

Now, after 20 years of study, Everything I Know About Business I Learned from the Grateful Dead: The Ten Most Innovative Lessons from a Long, Strange Trip, is set to hit bookstores this coming November.

"The people that I interviewed in the Grateful Dead organization were on the business side. They weren't in the band." says Barnes.

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TOP 10 SMALL BUSINESS TIPS

by Jane Doucet

Small and medium-size businesses account for 99.8 per cent of all Canadian companies and employ more than 60 per cent of private sector workers. If you're thinking of launching a small business, here are 10 points to consider:

1) CHOOSE SOMETHING YOU LOVE.

You're going to spend countless hours starting and growing your business. It's vital to love your work, whether it's selling insurance, running a photography studio or cutting hair.

2) SAVE MONEY FIRST.

Don't start your business just using loans from family, friends and banks; it can take years to turn a profit before you can repay them. Instead, save as much money as possible upfront, even if it extends your launch date.

3) RESEARCH, RESEARCH, RESEARCH.

You'll need to become an expert on your industry, products and services. To do so, join related industry or professional associations.

4) DRAFT A BUSINESS PLAN.

For most small businesses, the most important parts of this plan are the break-even analysis, a profit-and-loss forecast and a cash-flow projection. It also helps project start-up costs and marketing strategies.

5) DON'T QUIT YOUR DAY JOB.

If there's no conflict of interest and you can manage it, keep your full-time job while you lay the foundation of your business. You might as well enjoy getting regular paycheques and paid vacations as long as you can!

6) FIND CLIENTS/CUSTOMERS FIRST.

Start lining them up before you've officially launched. Network, offer a few free services or products — you can't start marketing too soon.

7) HIRE GOOD STAFF.

Choose outstanding employees, then create a happy and stable workplace so they'll want to perform well and stick around.

8) EMBRACE SOCIAL MEDIA.

At the very least, companies should have a website that describes who they are and their services and products. It's becoming de rigueur for businesses to be on Facebook and Twitter too.

9) ADOPT A CAUSE.

Consumers appreciate businesses that support good causes. Everyone wins: the customers, the charities and the businesses.

10) PAY YOUR BILLS AND TAXES ON TIME.

In doing so, you'll gain trust and build a positive credit profile. For small businesses, reputation is everything.

SMALL BUSINESS WEEK 2011

For 32 years, the Business Development Bank of Canada has been organizing Small Business Week to recognize the contributions and achievements of Canadian entrepreneurs. Events held during this week bring entrepreneurs together at conferences, luncheons and trade fairs across the country, where they can learn and network with their peers. For more information about this year's events, which are being held this week, visit www.bdc.ca/sbw.

PARTY STUFF STILL A FAMILY BUSINESS

When it comes to party supplies in Winnipeg, it'd be tough to find a company with more local history than Party Stuff & U-Rent-It. While the original store, which consisted of a single party rental store, opened in the 1950s, the Glass family bought the retail outlet in 1982. By 1986, the store was still modest compared to what it is today: it was only a 2,200 square foot space located in a small strip mall on St. James Street, near the Winnipeg Stadium.

A few expansions later, it's still true to its roots. "It is still a family business and all the principal owners live in Winnipeg, have families here," says Jonathan Glass, one of the owners who is responsible for the retail division, product selection and marketing. Along with Jonathan, brother Bryan Glass heads up the event rental division of the business (U-Rent-It) as well as operations and human resources. And mom and dad Sheldon and Sandy, the original owners, are also still involved. In fact, it was dad Sheldon who coined the original approach to customer service for the store — namely C.A.R.E. (Customers Are Really Everything), a philosophy that still guides the Glass family business to this day.

WANT TO KNOW MORE?

Where can you find Party Stuff & U-Rent-It? The company has three locations throughout Winnipeg:
Party Stuff & U-Rent-It:
925 Milt Stegall Dr.
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Unit 3 - 1530 Regent Ave. W.
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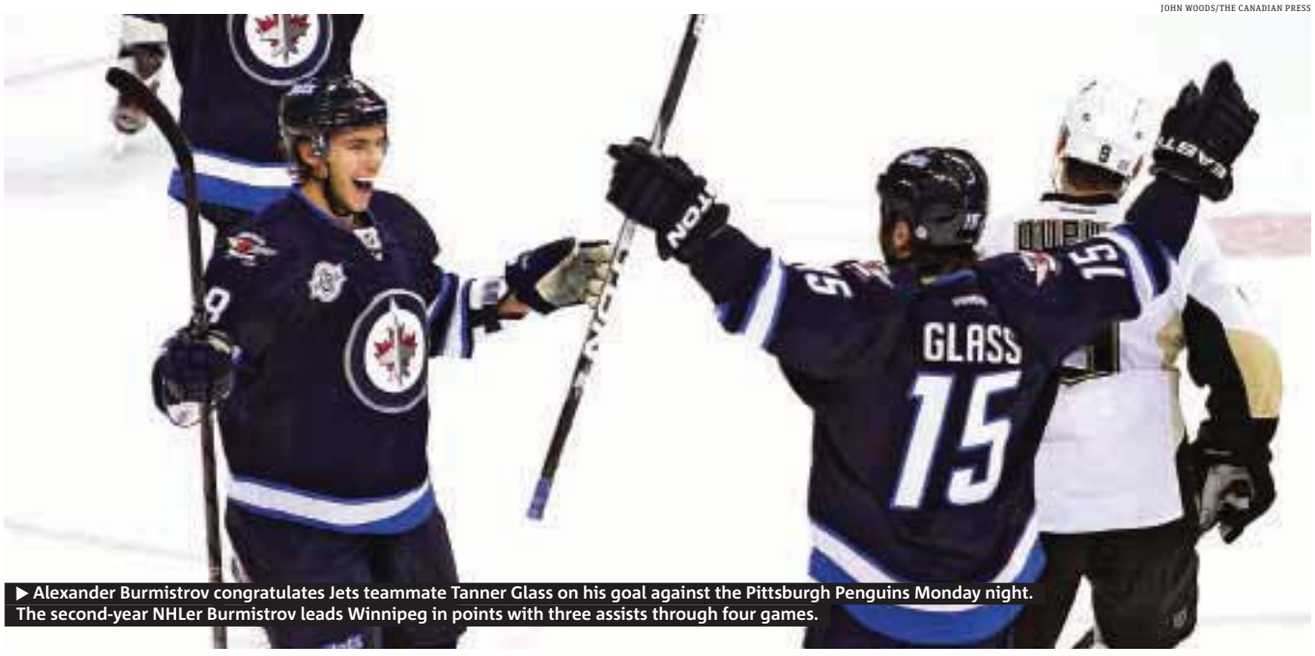
JOHN WOODS/THE CANADIAN PRESS



▶ Alexander Burmistrov congratulates Jets teammate Tanner Glass on his goal against the Pittsburgh Penguins Monday night. The second-year NHLer Burmistrov leads Winnipeg in points with three assists through four games.

NHL reality hits Jets, Scheifele

THE HOCKEY NEWS

RORY BOYLEN
WINNIPEG@METRONEWS.CA

The difference between an NHL-ready player and one who is best suited to another year in junior is noticeable to any casual hockey fan. And the Winnipeg Jets currently have two players from the same major junior program who serve as prime examples of such a chasm.

By my call, Alexander Burmistrov has been Winnipeg's best player in this young season. He's not the biggest player in the NHL, but what he lacks in size he more than makes up for with shiftiness and speed. It's premature to realistically compare his career trajectory to any established NHLer, but at this point Burmistrov reminds me an awful lot of Pavel Datsyuk. There's still much maturing to do, but Burmistrov's balance despite his slight frame, confidence handling the puck, hockey smarts and vision certainly resemble Datsyuk's skill set.

On the flip side is Mark Scheifele. Now, it's unfair to give the 18-year-old a hard time after just four professional games, but now that the pre-season matchups against NHL wannabes have ended and the real competition has stepped up, it has become clear the best route for Scheifele is a trip back to Barrie of the Ontario Hockey League and a chance to shine for Canada at the world juniors.

"Scheifele is still a junior player, which is completely OK for a surprising No. 7 overall pick."

Earlier this month coach Claude Noel came out in support of Scheifele, showering praises on his first round pick — and there's nothing wrong with that. But I think Noel went overboard in his rave reviews of Scheifele and it never made a lick of sense to me. Here, once again, were his words to the Winnipeg Free Press about the likelihood of Scheifele going back to junior:

"I'll be stunned. I'll guarantee you, he'd have to be a complete failure in these nine games."

A complete failure? Why on Earth would you want to put your team and player under that kind of unnecessary pressure? Far from being a complete failure, reality has struck Scheifele and a trip back to junior is the best option. He hasn't been able to find a home on a line, hasn't been a key offensive or defensive contributor and was even benched for a period. He's still a junior player, which is completely OK for a surprising No. 7 overall pick.

While Burmistrov himself was a surprise rookie straight out of the draft a year ago, he quickly earned his place. But more players are ruined by being rushed than are helped by the push and the Jets don't need to take that risk with Scheifele.

It's time to send Scheifele back to the Barrie Colts and let him lead and dominate.

4 sports

Quoted

"I think it's always exciting going into Toronto. Everybody likes playing there because of the atmosphere. Being able to play there before and being on a Canadian team again makes it that much better."

WINNIPEG JETS FORWARD KYLE WELLWOOD ON PLAYING IN TORONTO TONIGHT AGAINST HIS FORMER TEAM THE MAPLE LEAFS (TSN, 6:30).

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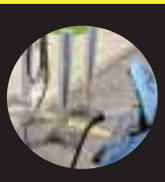
Charging the Leaf



The battery pack can be charged one of three ways:

- A so-called "Level 3 DC Fast" installation can get it to 80 per cent charge in about 30 minutes. Problem: there are no Level 3 stations in Canada available to Leaf drivers at the moment, and only 20 in all of the United States.
- The Level 2 system involves fitting a 240 volt charging station into your garage at a cost of around $3,000. This will fill 'er up in about seven hours — essentially, overnight.
- Finally, a trickle charge from a standard 110 volt outlet will take about 18 hours.

Scan code for more car reviews and news

ALL PHOTOS BY JIM KENZIE

▶ The Nissan Leaf is set to arrive in Canada this fall.

Leaf is no fancy golf cart

In fact, Nissan's electric offering is quite the car

Let's get one thing straight: the Nissan Leaf electric car is a fine piece of engineering.

It achieves the objectives its planners set out for it, and functions very well as an automobile.

Canadian customers can go online and reserve their Leaf now, starting at $38,395, with first deliveries scheduled for later this fall.

The larger question is: does the Leaf — does any pure electric car — make any sense?

Or is the entire Leaf program a multi-billion dollar public relations exercise instituted by Nissan to counter the fact that arch-rival Toyota has captured the high ground on hybrids, whose practicality is at least as equally dubious?

The Leaf is built on what Nissan calls a dedicated platform, shared with other electric cars from the Nissan-Renault Alliance, although I'll bet you'd find similarities in some chassis and suspension components to other front-wheel drive Nissan compacts.

Leaf is officially classified as a mid-size car, having total interior space roughly equivalent to Nissan's Altima. It seats four comfortably, five in somewhat of a pinch.

Power to the AC synchronous electric motor comes from a Lithium-Ion battery pack consisting of 48 four-cell modules nestled under the floor where it takes little space away from passengers and cargo.

Only when the 60/40 split rear seatbacks are folded does the high bulkhead between rear seat and trunk become obtrusive, preventing the loading of bulky objects.

Electric motors generate their maximum torque at zero r.p.m., which means the 107 horsepower 207 lb.-ft. unit launches the 1,525 kg Leaf away from rest at a satisfying rate.

Nissan won't quote a 0-100 km/h number, but various Internet sources suggest mid-seven seconds, which is very good.

There is no transmission as such in the Leaf; the motor winds up until it runs out of revs at around 140 km/h.

Reverse simply runs the motor backwards.

If you choose the ECO mode, acceleration is considerably more leisurely; the payoff is longer range.

Nissan says Leaf is good for about 160 kilometres of normal driving. Lights, wipers, A/C, etc., will affect this; hard acceleration and high speeds dramatically so.

A multi-screen display gives you the distances possible in either normal or ECO mode. It even draws concentric circles on the standard SatNav map to give you a clear indication of where you are and where you can get to.

If you do have to call the Roadside Assistance number to get flat-bedded home, you can't say you weren't warned.

Electric motors are a lot quieter than internal combustion engines. The obvious advantage is a quiet ride; the loudest thing you'll hear apart from the sound system is the engine cooling fans up front.

Driving the Leaf is simplicity itself. Punch the On button, and when you get the green Ready light on the instrument panel, pull the shift lever left and back, hit the gas, and off you go.

The car is indeed quiet, and rides and handles well, partly due to the 50-50 weight distribution.

A substantial portion of Leaf's braking effect is achieved by electric resistance as opposed to friction — the regenerative brakes convert kinetic energy back into electricity to recharge the battery.

These are standard fare in electrics and hybrids; the trick usually is massaging brake feel as the system transitions from "regen" to friction and back again. Leaf does this as well — probably better — than any other such system I have tried.

As I said at the start, the Leaf functions very well as a car. It fulfills Nissan's promise that it drives like a real car, not a fancy golf cart. It also is very relaxing to drive.

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Nissan Leaf facts

- **Motor:** 80 KW AC Synchronous electric motor.
- **Power/Torque:** 107 hp/ 207 lbs.-ft.
- **Competition:** Chevrolet Volt, Mitsubishi i-MiEV.
- **What's Best:** Quick acceleration; quiet inside and out; relaxing to drive; feels like a 'real' car, not a glorified golf cart.
- **What's Worst:** Range still not large enough to be practical, at least not as an 'only' car; message centre and Owners Manual together weren't sufficient to diagnose a no-start condition.

▶ Despite the mid-size label, it feels like a compact — perhaps the interior cubic volume stems from the very tall roof, which also enables comfortable seating positions for almost anyone.

Not so fast or furious

Driving a Sprint Cup car an eye-opening experience — even under 100 m.p.h.

ROSS D. FRANKLIN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Associated Press writer John Marshall got to drive in a Sprint Cup car for an eight-lap run on a new track in Arizona.

Peering through a windshield no bigger than a crawl space while pinned into what feels like a baby seat, the world appears to flash by from behind the wheel of a Sprint Cup car.

Viewed trackside, it looks more like rush-hour traffic putzing along a highway.

Then you realize you were the slowest of your group and that it was probably closer to the speed of a horse-drawn carriage than Jimmie Johnson.

Sadly, that's what happened during a recent eight-lap run with the Richard Petty Driving Experience at Phoenix International Raceway.

Given a chance to test out the new surface at PIR's 1-mile oval, I failed.

Miserably.

I've topped 115 miles per hour on the open highway, plowed through blizzards with one-foot drifts, whipped through roundabouts in Paris with ease.

Get behind the wheel of Sprint Cup car, one of the most powerful cars in the world, one that some might give up an organ for a chance to drive, and I putter around like one of those brake-heavy snowbirds who travel down from the north to fill Arizona's roads every winter.

The biggest reason: driving one of these beasts is disorienting.

It may look easy watching Johnson, Jeff Gordon and Dale Earnhardt Jr. race around in circles on TV, but nothing about being behind the wheel of a Sprint Cup car is comfortable.

It starts with the fire suit.

Besides making you look drop-dead sexy, they're uncomfortable, sweat lodge hot and not exactly form fitting. Maybe I got one that was too small, but I felt like someone had hiked me up from behind and was carrying me around by the seat of my pants.

After that, you put on a moon-sized helmet that tests your neck strength, then get strapped into the HANS device, which gives you sort of a Star Wars look, not to mention making it hard to turn your head. The full-body turn to look at someone becomes a must.

93

Writer John Marshall's top speed, in miles per hour, on the track.

Any racing fan knows that the doors don't open on Sprint Cup cars, but they may not know that climbing through that window with a giant bulb on your head feels like that time you locked your keys in the house and got stuck in the dog door.

The driver's compartment looks as if someone randomly welded a bunch of metal together and has the claustrophobic feel of a being shoved into a foot locker. It feels even tighter when they attach the steering wheel, which, in itself, takes a little getting used to — as in, is that thing going to stay attached?

The windshield is smaller than you'd expect and the rearview mirror is distorted, like something you'd imagine Benjamin Franklin used while shaving.

The waiver form didn't help, either. Filled with legalese and about 50 places to initial and sign, it's much easier to just scribble your signature quickly across the pages without reading the fine print.

You're driving a race car, so pretty much figure it says "You may get maimed or killed and we're not responsible."

Once you get going, the concentration level gets ratcheted up exponentially.

There's no fiddling with the radio or texting while driving one of these. From the moment you hear the roar of the engine and feel that 600-horsepower machine vibrating underneath you, you're locked in, the rest of the outside world blacked out.

As they said in the safety and instruction meeting before the session, the key to driving in the Richard Petty Driving Experience is all about three things: distance — three car lengths — driving line and speed.

For me, it was fail, fail, fail.

The lead cars have a green light on the right telling you when to speed up and a yellow on the left when you get too close.

My problem was getting past the feeling that the car was going to slide off the track.

Overall, driving a Sprint Cup car is certainly an eye-opening experience, one that provides a greater appreciation for what the big boys do with those monster machines.

OK, so this is coming from the perspective of someone who drives a boxy SUV, but I can at least say it's nothing like driving on the freeway.

BY JOHN MARSHALL/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NORM HALL/GETTY IMAGES

▶ NASCAR star Jimmy Johnson pulls onto pit row prior to taking a few test laps at Phoenix International Raceway this month.

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Last-gen Legacy delivered all-weather confidence

SECOND GEAR

JUSTIN PRITCHARD
DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA

Subaru has recently moved their popular Legacy sport sedan into its fifth generation for the 2010 model year — meaning the fourth-generation car has now transitioned fully into the used car marketplace.

For its last generation, Legacy was available in both sedan and wagon body styles.

Numerous special models were available, and feature content included heated leather seats, automatic climate control, a sunroof, remote access and more.

All-wheel drive was standard on all models.

2005 to 2009 Subaru Legacy

Engine

Available were a 2.5-litre four-cyinder boxer engine with 170 horsepower, a turbocharged version thereof making up to 250 horsepower, and a three-litre flat six.

What owners like

Legacy owners typically rate fuel mileage, handling and dynamics, responsiveness and interior build quality the most highly. All weather confidence thanks to the standard AWD system is also typically raved about, too.

What owners dislike

Legacy owners typically wish for more interior room, a more spacious rear seat, and more performance from the standard engine. Some owners report heavy fuel consumption from the turbocharged engine, too.

Common issues

Look for rust on the used Legacy's trunk lid, and especially the trunk lip. You'll have to open the trunk to see any rust forming here. Have a look under the vehicle for signs of rust or leaky differentials, as well as leaky engine or transmission seals. A squealing or scraping noise from the front of the engine while idling could be caused by a belt-tensioner pulley that's starting to fail.

Verdict

Typically, Subaru drivetrains and powerplants are known to be very solid and reliable if properly maintained. If everything checks out, a well-maintained last-generation Legacy should prove an enjoyable and confidence-inspiring ride for years to come.

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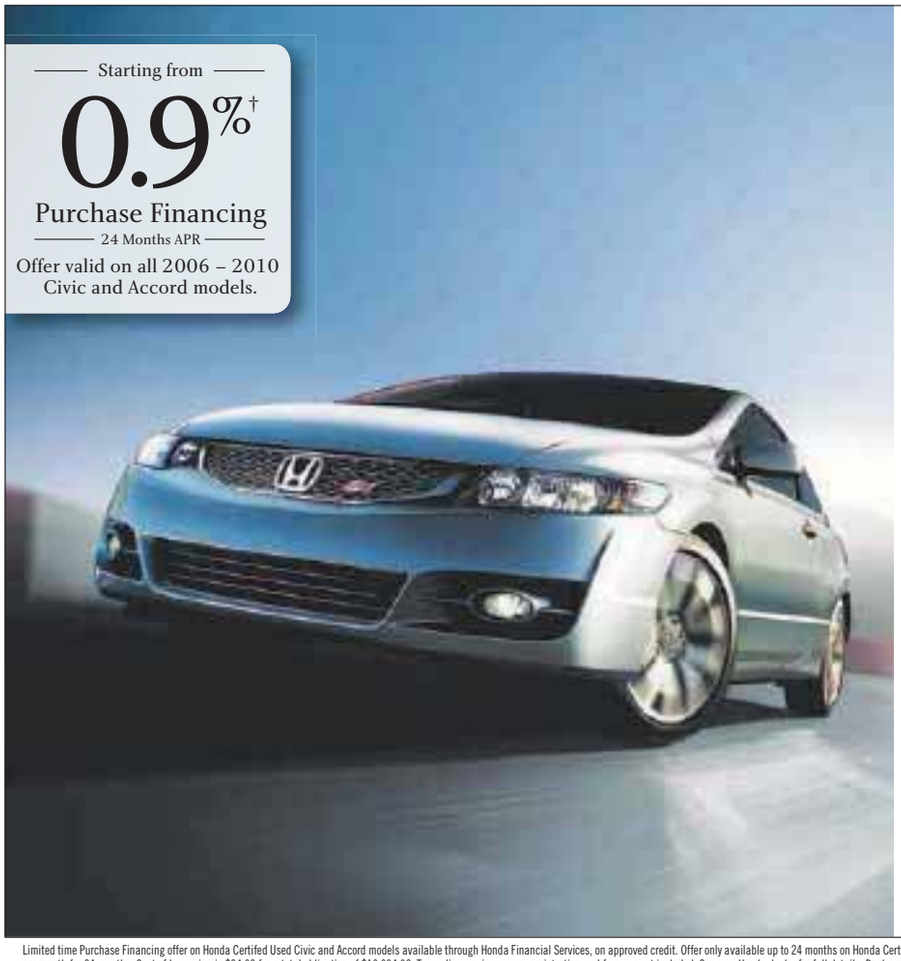

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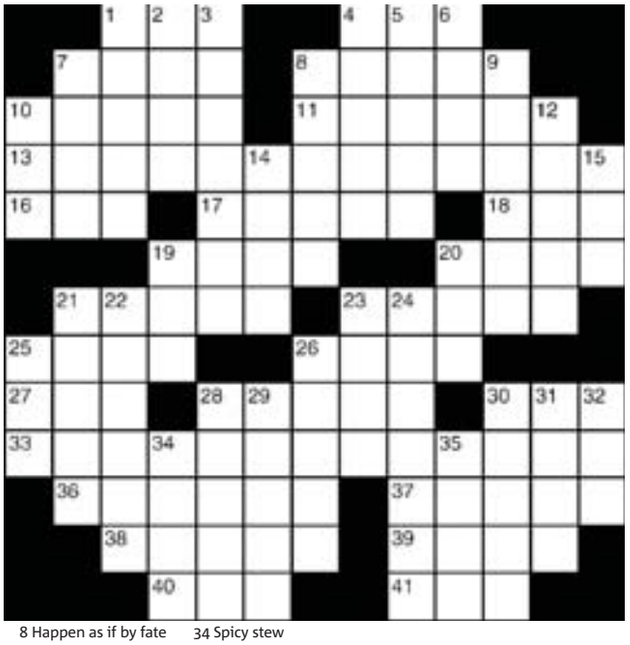
Crossword



Across

1 Creche trio
5 Antiquated
8 Pulsate
12 Right angles
13 Kids' pie filling?
14 Eastern potentate
15 Go sightseeing
16 Pose
18 Embassy employee
20 Actress Spacek
21 Historic period
22 Conclusion
23 Without pizzazz
26 Try
30 Born
31 Playwright Levin
32 — constrictor
33 Lure
36 Choir rendition
38 "Hail!"
39 Total
40 Ecru
43 "Way to go!"
47 Lawyer
49 Anger
50 Humdinger
51 Web address
52 Up to
53 Scottish garment
54 Sock part
55 "That's one small — ..."

Down

1 Transcending (Pref.)
2 Oodles
3 Excessive supply
4 Where Tel Aviv is
5 Nebraska city
6 Minstrel's instrument
7 Banned pesticide
8 Happen as if by fate
9 Flightless flock
10 Lends a hand
11 Deuce defeater
17 "— It Romantic?"
19 Weep
22 Greek H
23 "CSI" evidence
24 Pensioned (Abbr.)
25 Nevertheless
26 Illustrations
27 Degree for a CEO
28 D.C. figure
29 53-Across wearer's hat
31 Lemieux milieu
34 Spicy stew
35 Maintain
36 Deposit
37 Intellect
39 Fashion
40 Abruptly refuse
41 Needle case
42 "— be OK"
43 Re planes and such
44 Fisherman's enticement
45 Look lasciviously
46 Shrill bark
48 Eccentric

▶ Yesterday's answer

Sudoku

			1	4				9
7						3	8	5
		3					4	
			3	1				2
	3		8		4		9	
1				2	6			
	9					7		
8	1	4						6
5				9	2			

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ▶

2	8	7	3	6	5	1	4	9
4	3	1	8	9	2	6	5	7
6	5	9	4	7	1	2	8	3
1	6	5	7	8	4	9	3	2
9	4	8	2	3	6	7	1	5
3	7	2	5	1	9	4	6	8
5	1	4	9	2	3	8	7	6
7	2	6	1	5	8	3	9	4
8	9	3	6	4	7	5	2	1

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You can now post your kiss, and read even more kisses, online at metronews.ca/kiss.

mangooli jan. azizam, u mean the world to me. I love spending everyday with u. I cant see myself living without u. I love u forever and ever and I cant wait to be ur wife. E&F<3 **GOOGOOLI JOON**

PBR, Babe, it's been a year already, and I feel closer to you now than ever. You are a true original, I'll never forget the way you taste on my lips. You truly are one of nature's choicest. Love you forever! **GRAEME**

*Luke Significant, Happy 21 Month Anniversary! There are no words to describe how much I love you! Being with you is the best feeling in the world and I know it will never stop. I can never wait for you to get home to get your hugs and kisses, and especially your cuddles because thats the greatest gift you can give me I LOVE YOU <3 *MUAH* (K)* **OLIVIA**

A look at the weather

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Min -2°	Min 4°	Min -2°
Max 5°	Max 11°	Max 13°

BT BREAKFAST TELEVISION

Jenna Khan, Weather Specialist

"Weather impacts everything we do. Providing the information you need before you head out that door and take on the day is the best part of my morning." **WEEKDAYS 6AM**

Today's horoscope

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

♈ Aries March 21-April 20 You must be honest about what you can do today, even if it means you have to disappoint someone.

♉ Taurus April 21-May 21 You need to patch things up with someone you have been having an on-off argument with for weeks.

♊ Gemini May 22-June 21 It's as if you're walking around with a force field that repels negative vibrations. Let positive people in.

♋ Cancer June 22-July 22 You may not be a typical tough guy, but you know how to get things done while others are panicking. Do it.

♌ Leo July 23-Aug.23 Your powers of imagination are high at the moment, as is your sensitivity to other people's needs.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24- Sept. 22 You'll charm your way out of a tough spot but it won't solve the issue that got you there in the first place.

♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23 If you go out of your way to help someone in need today, he or she will do you a good deed in return.

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22 You seem a lot more laid back these days. Venus moves through your birth sign, offering perspective.

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21 You will have to choose between making your own life more enjoyable or helping someone.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20 You will see the good in every person you meet today, and it will make your world better place.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18 You'll be in demand so much today that you'll need to turn down more invitations than you accept.

♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20. If you are involved in anything of a creative nature, it is sure to go well. **SALLY BROMPTON**

Caption contest

NATACHA PISARENKO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ROB GRIFFITH/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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